

THE PLANET URANUS.

Edifies a Voyage to This Gigantic World Would Disclose. If Uranus, which is a star of about the sixth magnitude, were a planet like those little ones called asteroids, which are being discovered by the dozen every year, it could not have much claim upon popular attention, but Uranus is really a gigantic world, more than sixty times as large as ours. Its vast distance, about 1,700,000,000 miles from the earth, is what causes it to look so small. Uranus has four moons, which revolve backward in their orbits—that is to say, they revolve from east to west around Uranus, while Uranus goes, like all the other planets, from west to east around the sun. It is believed that Uranus rotates backward on its axis also. Moreover, the axis of that great, strange globe lies in such a direction that in the course of its year, which is equal to eighty-four of our years, the sun shines almost perpendicularly first upon one pole and then upon the other. Measured by our time standard, there are forty years of constant daylight, followed by forty years of unbroken night, around the poles of Uranus. And the sun rises in the west and sets in the east there. But the sun looks very small when viewed from Uranus—only one four-hundredth as large as it appears to us. Still it sheds upon that planet 1,500 times as much light as the full moon sends to the earth, so that daylight upon Uranus, while faint compared with the blaze of a terrestrial noonday, is nevertheless a very respectable kind of illumination.

CAKE AN OLD INSTITUTION.

The Ancients Made and Ate It, but It Was a Simple Affair. The ancients made cake, but it was not the rich, highly seasoned and flavored confection which we indulge in nowadays. They had plain cakes made with flour and water, some of them without a suspicion of sweet or flavor. Some of them were not unlike our plainest crackers and were often eaten as we eat bread. Wedding cake was an institution among them, as with us, but the cake was a plain one and was broken above the head of the bride as she went to her new home. This was a special feature of Roman marriages 2,000 years ago. The breaking of the cake was part of a solemn ceremony. All of the cakes of ancient history are plain and simple. It is only as we come down to more modern times that we hear of spices and fruits and all of the rich and luxurious ingredients in which present day cakemakers delight. In Queen Elizabeth's time spice cakes and buns were eaten at weddings. From these the fashion and fancy grew for all sorts of elaborate and deliciously

WHOLESALE COMMERCIALS ARE SEEN TO BE A PERPETUAL STRUGGLE FOR SOMETHING NEW AND MORE UNUSUAL TO STRIKE INTO THE CAKE OF THE PERIOD.

Measuring Medicine. Use a medicine glass with the amount of each spoonful and drop marked upon it. Teaspoonfuls and tablespoonfuls are always mentioned, but as these vary in size it is not safe to rely upon them. Drops, too, cannot be properly measured without a glass. Keep the medicine glass perfectly clean. It should be washed out after each dose, in readiness for the next time. It is desirable that if the patient is to have medicine with a strong smell, oils, etc., to keep a glass specially for them, letting it soak in hot water for half an hour after use to remove all disagreeable odor. It is impossible to cleanse such a glass in a few moments. When the medicine is being poured out hold the label uppermost in order that it may not become stained with any drops escaping down the side of the bottle.

MOZART AND BRETZNER.

When Mozart was at the height of his fame he composed the music for Bretzner's "Belmont und Konstanze" ("The Abduction From the Seraglio") at the request of the Emperor Joseph II. The author of the drama was so angry at this that he inserted the following notice in the Leipziger Zeitung: "A certain fellow of the name of Mozart has dared to misuse my drama, 'Belmont und Konstanze,' for an opera text. I hereby solemnly protest against this invasion of my rights, and I reserve to myself further proceedings. (Signed) Christoph Friedrich Bretzner, author of 'Rauschen.'" "A ground hog case" is a case of absolute necessity—one in which the reward of perseverance is certain and the necessity for perseverance is imperative. Its origin is told in this story: A boy was seen digging vigorously with a grub hoe at the mouth of a hole in which a ground hog had taken refuge. He was asked if he thought he would get the ground hog, to which he replied with scorn: "Catch him? Why, yes; I'm bound to catch him; we're out of meat."—St. Louis Republic.

A GROUND HOG CASE.

Johnny's Faith. "But why do you think Johnny believes so thoroughly in the efficacy of prayer?" "Because when I suggested that he pray for a little brother he refused to do it and prayed for a goat and a red wagon instead."—Houston Post.

JOHNNY'S FAITH.

Gospel of Clothes. It is a fact nowadays that fine feathers do make fine birds and that people are judged more by their appearance than their character.—Lady Violet Greville in London Graphic.

GOSPEL OF CLOTHES.

Two Laymen Have Been Popes. The canon law does not prescribe that the pope must be a cardinal or even a cleric. Nevertheless since the election of Urban VI, in 1378 the successful candidates have belonged to the members of the sacred college, although as late as 1758 a noncardinal was voted for several times. At least two laymen—John XIX. (1024) and Adrian V. (1276)—have occupied the papal throne, and there is today nothing to prevent laymen from being created cardinals, although they are not entitled to vote in the conclave unless they can produce a special permit from the late pope.

TWO LAYMEN HAVE BEEN POPES.

Valued Religious Relics. The collection of religious relics to be seen in the church of the Corsican village of Sisco is undoubtedly unique. The inhabitants of this pretty little place are exceedingly devout and very simple, which probably accounts for the possession of such a remarkable collection. A writer in L'Independance Belge gives the following list of the principal items: The horn used by Moses to call together the children of Israel while in the desert, a tuft of that red hair which was the pride of Esau and the despair of Jacob, a piece of the nail of the little toe of the left foot—the statement is very precise—of Enoch, the patriarch; the bib worn by the infant Jesus, the curb and crupper of the ass that took the holy family into Egypt and several relics of various saints.

HAIR AND COLOR.

Red Is Much Nearer Allied to Black Than to Blond. The color of the hair, says the Grand Magazine, is usually transmitted from parents to child. This is especially true when both parents have the same complexion. Instances, however, are not uncommon where children have hair black as ebony, while the hair of both parents is a burning red. Instead of disproving the theory that a child takes after its parents, so far as the color of the hair is concerned, this fact, it has now been ascertained, is all in favor of the doctrine. Red hair, in fact, is by its structure and composition much nearer to black hair than to blond.

HAIR AND COLOR.

A Long Life. To prolong life one should take plenty of sleep and remember to sleep lying on the right side, indulge in a morning bath in tepid water, take daily exercise in the open air, keep the window of the sleeping room open all night, take frequent and short holidays, not be over-ambitious and hold one's temper.

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Considerate Discretion. Stranger—How long since you made an arrest, constable? Constable Hi Medder—Quite a considerable spell, I'm goin' a leetle slow 'bout haulin' 'em in jest now. We hain't got no place to put 'em 'ceptin' Cy Tedder's chicken coop, an' Cy's got a settlin' hen on.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

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The Fact of It. "It's love that makes the world go 'round," said the old fashioned sentimentalist. "No," answered Miss Cayenne; "it merely makes some people so dizzy that they think the world is goin' 'round."—Washington Star.

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Napoleon's Ink Wiper. Napoleon was a hero to his valet. Constant, though he sadly marred the servant's effort to dress him neatly. Said the valet: His breeches were always of white cashmere. But two hours after leaving his chamber it often happened that they were all spotted with ink, thanks to his habit of wiping his pen on them and shaking ink all around him by striking his pen against the table. However, as he dressed in the morning for the whole day, he did not change his toilet on that account, but remained in this state until night. The whole inside of his boots was lined with white fustian. Whenever one of his legs itched, he rubbed it with the heel of the boot or shoe with which the other leg was shod, thus heightening the effect of the spilled ink.

HAIR AND COLOR.

An Aggravated Case. Lord Justice Clerk Eskgrove, in sentencing certain housebreakers, began by explaining the various crimes of which they had been convicted—assault, robbery and hamesucken, of which last he gave them the etymology. He then reminded them that they had attacked the house and robbed it, and so worked gradually up to the climax. "All this you did, and God preserve us, joost when they were settin' down to their dinner!"—Law Notes.

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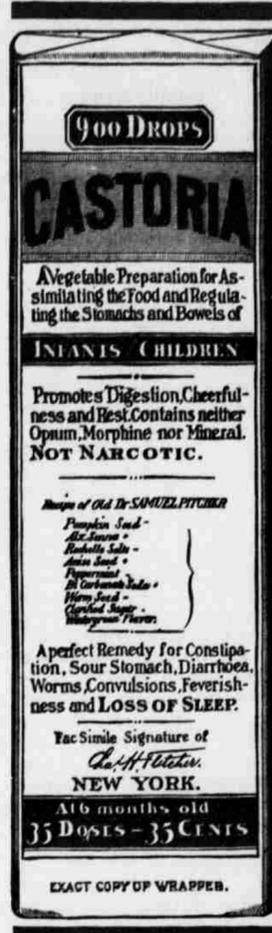
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Whenever the French government gets into a little trouble it always discovers there is a horrid plot by Royalists, Bonapartists, Catholics, Anarchists, or Jews that must be attended to right away.

Mr. Gorky says there is more liberty in Russia than in the United States. The translator should look over his notes to see if the word used was not license instead of liberty.

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